

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE MAGAZINES.

Without any particular vivacity, there is a general quiet goodness in *The Atlantic* this month, which leaves the reader in a state of sleepy satisfaction. A great many will probably skip over the first article, "Childhood; a study after reading the rather wordy introduction to it; but if they do they will make a mistake, for it contains a good deal of humor of that gentle sort which so pleasantly flavors the best writings of Gull Hamilton. "Farmer Hill's Diary," by Mrs. A. M. Diaz is a story, neither bad nor very good; it has some excellent passages, but the style of "dairy" is that of no "farmer" that ever was born. Charles J. Sprague gives a clear and well-written synopsis of "The Darwinian Theory." N. Sheldon is the author of an imaginary conversation between "Diogenes," "Aristippus," and "Hipparchus" on "Various Aspects of the Woman Question." It comprises a vast deal more wit and sparkle than any conversation in real life ever did; and if it propounds no new views or arguments it at least sets off the old ones in a rather entertaining manner. We suppose the author's own opinion is presented in the closing words of Aristippus. "You cannot, my dear Hipparchus, by any process of teaching, not even by magazine-articles, make a wise bird intelligent and tame; for it will wear yellow feathers, and it will sing and nibble at sugar." "Scorahed ed Altri" by W. J. Sullivan is a fair essay on the beautiful intaglio or engraved gems of the ancients. Etruscans and Greeks. The "Passages from Hawthorne's Note-Books" are full of the woods, and fields, and gardens. C. C. Hancewell contributes a historical article on "The Norman Conquest," and Henry Jones, Jr., an agreeable list, but not a very solid paper on "The Novel of George Eliot." "Griffith Gaus" is continued. "The Upstart," by the Hon. George R. Boutwell, is a sharp and telling assault upon Mr. Johnson. There are two poems—neither very remarkable—"Her Pilgrimage," by Gen. H. B. Sargent, and "Miantown," an Indian Legend, by T. B. Aldrich.

The Galaxy for October, though not quite so good as usual, is still very readable. "Views of Mormonism" by a Mormon Elder are rather common-place, the best thing about them being their title. The Elder tells us nothing about the manners or morals of the Saints, but indulges in magnificent speculations upon the future of the Mormon "nation," so that, whatever value his paper may have as a prophecy, it is not a very important contribution to historical literature. Prof. Blots pens some interesting notes on "Ancient and Modern Cookery." "The Arrest of Monte Rosa," by C. U. S., is extremely well written—the best thing, perhaps, in the number. Wm. R. Alger's essay on "The Character of Petrarch" is weak and ambitious, the thought being rather milk-and-water than the style. Mr. Alger would call "high-strung." Mr. H. A. Delille tells us something about "The Extravagance of the French Court," containing bits of gossip and scandal, and closing with a friendly exhortation to the French aristocracy to mind what they are about. George Wakeman's article on "Live Metaphors" is about slang and its meanings and uses. Julius Wilcox gives "A Few Notes for a Young Pianist." Beside "The Claverings" and "Archie Lovell," fiction is represented in "Miss Martin and Miss Wier," by Caroline Chester, and, and "Down in a Chine," by Maria L. Pool, neither of which is good. The poetry is innocuous.

Porte-Crayon continues his "Personal Recollections of the War" in *Harper's Magazine*, with abundance of characteristic illustrations, but a poverty of incident. The "Cruise of the Rob Roy" is a pictorial account of the adventures of an English gentleman, who paddled a canoe of 15 feet length and 3 inches draught of water for 1,000 miles on the rivers of Germany, Switzerland, and France, on the Swiss lakes, and even in the rough waters of the British Channel. The story is an enterprising one, and it closes with a practical suggestion to tourists in our own country who hope to see carried out. Mr. Abbott's chronicle of "Herold Deeds" carries us this month into "The Wilds of Arkansas." A recent visitor to "Lady Godiva at Home" describes the revival this year of the ancient celebration in honor of the mounted women whose legend is familiar to all readers of Tenenny. The Lady Godiva was represented in the procession on this occasion by Madame Pantin of London—an artist's model by profession—which was dressed as a ballet dancer and mounted on a white charger. There is a wretched engraving of a part of the spectacle at the head of the article. The controversy about "The Burning of Columbia" is reviewed by Mr. James McCarver, a citizen of that place, who acquits Gen. Sherman of the responsibility of the conflagration, but lays it upon the soldiers of Sherman's army. The editor of the magazine replies to some of the statements of his contributor. Mr. Schiele de Vore sends under the title of "The Freedman's Story," a plain, unvarnished account of a servant's trials in his efforts to secure his freedom. The paper on "The Cost of a House" is one of those plausible arguments, that have been so popular of late years, showing how a man might live on almost nothing if he would only manage his expenses in the right way. The writer of the present article undertakes to show how a man with \$2,000 capital and \$2,000 a year can build a house in Brooklyn and support himself and wife, keep a servant, and in eight years pay for his house. He succeeds, with the aid of elaborate tables, in showing that a married couple who follow his plan, spread a spare table, waste nothing, eat all the bone and fat, don't pay internal revenue taxes, don't take a newspaper, don't buy books or other luxuries, spend only \$100 a year for clothing, have no unforeseen expenses, never replace broken crockery or furniture, or repair their house, and never ask a friend to take a meal with them—will get along with \$27 a year more than their income. There are three short stories about the quality we are used to in *Harper's*, and three award poems. The Editor's Easy Chair always a pleasant refuge.

Beadle's Monthly has a pleasant paper by Mr. Richardson on "Montana and Idaho," with the store of illustrations, anecdotes, and admirable pieces of description which we are accustomed to look for in the author's graphic articles. Dr. Rufus King Browne furnishes a very good paper on the "Measurement of the Nerve Telegraph," describing an invention for recording the velocity with which sensation is transmitted through the nerves. Most people will not be surprised to learn that the rate of progression does not exceed 50 feet in a second, or about 60 miles an hour, while the velocity of light is 180,000 miles a second, and that of electricity still more. It is a horrible thing to be told that the velocity of nervous transmission in our bodies has been examined by inserting fine wires in the fingers and toes of a living man, and perhaps there are people who will take no pleasure in learning that "no sensible difference has been found between the velocity of the nerve of a man and those of a frog." The paper is very interesting and instructive, and will attract notice. Another contribution of especial merit is an account of "The Coal Trade," by a sea-captain who has been engaged in it. The writer represents the traffic in a very favorable light, and speaks highly of the treatment which the coolies receive on the voyage to the New World, though he professes to know nothing of how they fare in the hands of their employers. From the fact that many of them, after serving out their term of labor in the West Indies, return home and induce their families and friends to accompany them on a second voyage to America, the inference is fair that their condition is improved by the change. "The Zundindelge-welt" is an account of the Prussian needle-guns. There are articles on "Spiders," by Mary A. Prentiss; "The Stage as it Was"; "Visions"; and "The Education of our Girls," by Mrs. M. V. Victor; poems by Alice Cary, and others; and several stories.

Hours at Home is more excellent than usual this month, a large proportion of its articles having much literary merit beside being of popular interest. Among the best are an essay on "The History and Dignity of Apples," by Edward Spencer; "The Religious Drama in the Bavarian Highlands," by Professor Ten Broek, being a graphic account of a representation in 1860 of the "Mystery of the Passion," in the gothic style of the old miracle plays, when the performance lasted eight hours, and no fewer than 600 actors took part in it; and a biographical sketch by Dr. Harbaugh of J. P. Hebel, "the German Herder." The magazine also contains Dr. Bushnell's recent Audover address on "Polish Talent," a paper by Dr. Schaff on "The Council of Nice," Mr. Tuckerman's third paper on "American Artists," in which the writer speaks of William Bradford and William Morris Hunt, an essay on "Home," by Isabella MacFarlane; poetry, by Jessie R. Parkes, H. V. T., and others; the conclusion of "Jane Grey's Story," a short tale by Mrs. H. R. Potwin, entitled "The Wife's Aim"; &c.

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